

I. AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1-72. (Cancelled).

73. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing, in vitro, the cell with a nucleic acid segment encoding a ~~human sentrin-1 polypeptide, wherein the segment encodes at least 100 contiguous amino acids of~~ polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2, wherein a Fas and/or TNFR1 mediated apoptosis pathway is inhibited in the cell.

74.-87. (Cancelled).

88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.

89. (Cancelled).

90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.

91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid segment is comprised within a vector.

92. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing, in vitro, the cell with a nucleic acid segment comprising at least ~~about 100 contiguous nucleotides of~~ SEQ ID NO:1, wherein a Fas and/or TNFR1 mediated apoptosis pathway is inhibited in the cell.

93.-97 (Cancelled)

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.

99. (Cancelled).

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the nucleic acid segment is comprised within a vector.